



Lower Salt Creek Watershed-based Planning

Thursday, October 5 2017 ♦ 1:00 p.m.
Village of Westchester – Village Hall Community Room
10300 W. Roosevelt Road, Westchester, IL 60154

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome and Attendee Introductions – *Holly Hudson & Kelsey Pudlock, CMAP*

Holly Hudson welcomed the attendees and thanked everyone for coming. After introducing herself and colleague Kelsey Pudlock, Holly reviewed the meeting agenda and asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

2. Local Spotlight: Westchester’s Water Quality Protection Initiatives – *The Honorable Carl Celestino, Trustee, Village of Westchester*

Carl Celestino welcomed meeting participants to the Village of Westchester. He indicated that much of the Village’s water quality initiatives stem from flood mitigation efforts. In 2010 and 2013, the Village was nicknamed “Floodville” because it experienced severe flooding from Salt Creek and Addison Creek. The Mayor at the time took on the initiative to alleviate future flooding through education and mitigation projects.

Since these flood events, the Village and MWRD doubled the size of the Mayfair Reservoir, removed 120 homes from the floodplain, and worked with the Addison Creek Project to remove several more homes that were located in flood-prone areas. Today, the Village promotes Center for Neighborhood Technology’s Rain Ready Homes to educate Westchester homeowners on BMPs they can apply to their property to alleviate flooding and improve water quality. Additionally, the Village has a storm-drain marking program to educate residents and visitors that the storm sewers are connected to Salt and Addison Creeks. They are also a member of the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup (DRSCW) and continue to be interested in their chloride reduction initiative.

3. August Meeting: Brief Recap, Questions, etc. – *Holly Hudson, CMAP*

Holly gave a quick summary of the August public meeting at the Village of Villa Park. She asked the meeting participants to review and provide comments/edits to the August meeting notes, as needed.

4. Watershed Resource Inventory: Update – *Holly Hudson, CMAP*

Holly proceeded to mention the Water Resources Inventory is nearly complete. DuPage County Stormwater Management (DCSM) is finishing up detention basin assessments, and

select municipalities with DuPage and Cook Counties are completing a water quality-focused ordinance assessment.

5. Nonpoint Source Pollution Control BMP Projects, Programs, Policies

5.1. Online submittals via BMP Identification Survey – Kelsey Pudlock, CMAP

Kelsey Pudlock gave an update on the BMP proposals received to-date. As of October 4, there were 31 participants which identified 143 BMP opportunities. Participants also identified 14 BMPS that are currently underway and 36 BMPS that have been recently completed. Of the 143 BMP opportunities identified, 108 are located within municipalities, 33 are within forest preserves, and two are located within unincorporated areas. The top three BMP opportunities identified are wetland restoration, stream channel restoration, and porous/permeable pavement. There were 13 streambank protection stabilization opportunities identified as well.

Kelsey showed how to access the BMP survey and provided two links (see PowerPoint). She encouraged submittals to the BMP survey and requested that an email address be provided where indicated on the last input screen so that staff can follow up with any questions. DCSM will continue to calculate pollutant load reduction and cost estimates for projects submitted by October 15.

5.2. Estimated Pollutant Load Reductions – Mary Beth Falsey, DCSM

Mary Beth Falsey gave a brief update on the pollutant load reductions that DCSM has estimated for a selection of the BMP opportunities submitted through the BMP Identification Survey. DCSM has been using USEPA's STEPL model to determine the pollutant reduction estimates, and past watershed plans and previous projects to establish cost estimates for each proposed BMP. As of October 5, DCSM modeled 32 BMP opportunities. Approximately 82 BMP opportunities have not been modeled because one cannot quantify certain BMPs such as education and outreach. Mary Beth noted that there are a handful of streambank stabilization projects that were proposed; however, these BMPs can only be modeled with exact measurements of the segment(s) of interest—information that many BMP opportunities were lacking. She mentioned that STEPL doesn't have a "wetland restoration" BMP selection, but DCSM is open to modeling these under a different wetland-related BMP category. Holly suggested modeling them as constructed wetlands.

Mary Beth noted that DCSM is also estimating pollutant load reductions for a selection of BMP types on a watershed-wide basis. The intent of this kind of estimation is to capture future BMPs within the watershed that have yet to be proposed. This can allow future projects that were not specifically listed in the watershed plan to be eligible for 319 funding. Some BMPs that are being considered in these load reduction estimates include rainwater harvesting, infiltrations basins or trenches, and bioswales.

A participant asked what pollutant load percent reductions are being used for green roofs. DCSM has not come across any green roof proposals, but would look into potential reductions for the watershed-wide estimates. Holly noted CMAP has some percent reduction numbers used in another watershed-based plan. Deanna Doohaluk asked the

audience to give her stream related data (if available) to improve pollutant reduction estimates and viability of 319 funding eligibility.

5.3. Information, education, and outreach – Mary Mitros, DCSM

Mary Mitros presented on a survey that DCSM used to gauge the County residents' understanding of stormwater. The survey was conducted in 2013 and 2014 to fulfill NPDES permit requirements. It looked at people's values, knowledge, and language (i.e., vocabulary) related to stormwater and water quality. She highlighted that water quality was most commonly understood with regard to values; however, most did not know the meaning of nonpoint source pollution. Using the feedback received through this survey, DCSM wants to create tools using these three bands of communication. One tool that is currently available is the County's flood guidebook. DCSM also regularly hosts watershed-related workshops, one of which will be on November 14 at 8:00 a.m. in Elmhurst. This workshop will focus on streambank stabilization along Salt Creek and funding opportunities for green infrastructure, retrofits, and restoration.

5.4. Progressing to a sensible salting policy in the Salt Creek Basin – Deanna Doohaluk, DRSCW

Deanna Doohaluk gave an overview of chlorides: Salt/chloride does not get absorbed/filtered out in BMPs like other pollutants and therefore cannot be removed. Too much salt is not good for the environmental integrity of Salt Creek. Chloride levels are assessed from two points of view: chronic (long term) and acute (single event). In the summer, Salt Creek will often exceed the "chronic" level, and DRSCW is interested in determining where these exceedances occur within the Creek. Chlorides are addressed in the TMDLs for Salt Creek as well as NPDES and MS4 permits that require education regarding chloride. DRSCW is interested in changing behavior through education and outreach on the impacts of chloride. They share a one-page fact sheet on chlorides with municipalities and look for ways to help municipalities more efficiently apply salts to sidewalks, parking lots, and roads; and/or use salt alternatives. DRSCW is also involved with the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project, which is participating in a watershed-based chloride offset program that aims for no net increase in chloride levels in local streams as a result of the project.

6. Monitoring Success – Discussion and input

Holly initiated a discussion on an implementation schedule, interim measurable milestones, criteria for determining progress, as well as ways in which to evaluate the effectiveness of progress for the Lower Salt Creek Watershed-based Plan. The meeting attendees offered and discussed the following ideas:

- Many of the schools throughout Westchester require the completion of service hours. This presents an opportunity to implement recommendations while also engaging students in water quality improvement activities. Many students already participate in leaf recycling and trash cleanup activities within the Lower Salt Creek Watershed.
- DuPage County's watershed workshops can be used as avenues to advance plan recommendations.
- Pictures Posts may be mechanism through which to educate visitors and residents and evaluate a project's effectiveness within the watershed. The Posts function as wooden markers from which photos of a single place are taken over time.

- There should be a platform through which all stakeholders could communicate success stories.
- A stakeholder group would be advantageous to help monitor the plan's success. The group could function as a sub-committee that then feeds information to DuPage County. This information could also help update the plan, and determine which projects are eligible for 319 funds or are permit-related.
- A standing steering committee meeting with a survey questionnaire could be helpful for evaluating progress over time.
- Major milestones to track projects should be two-, five-, and 10-years as well as making a note of projects that are ongoing. The two-year milestone should be used for tracking education and outreach events that are happening now. There should also be indicators to go along with the goals that are tracked at these points in time.

7. **Call for LSC Watershed Photos**

Holly asked for submissions of photographs taken within the Lower Salt Creek Watershed planning area. A variety of subjects are welcome. All photos should be sent to Holly Hudson in high resolution JPG format accompanied by the subject, location, year/month, and credit of for photo. A handout is available on the check-in table.

8. **Next Meeting**

Holly noted that the next meeting is planned for Thursday, December 7, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. A host location is needed. This meeting will cover funding and technical assistance resources as well as provide an overview of the draft plan.

9. **Local Watershed Activities, News, Announcements**

Holly noted the following as printed on the agenda:

- **LSC project webpage:** <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs-and-resources/Ita/lower-salt-creek>
- **LSC BMP Identification Survey:** <https://lowersaltcreek-bmpssurvey.metroquest.com/>
- **DuPage County's Citizen Reporter:** <https://gis.dupageco.org/CitizenReporter/>
- **DRSCW bi-monthly meeting:** October 25, 9:00 a.m., Lombard Village Hall (<http://www.drscw.org>)
- **MWRD Watershed Planning Council meetings** (search "MWRD-WPC meeting schedule"):
 - Upper Salt Creek and Poplar Creek: Oct. 18, 2017, 10:30 a.m., Schaumburg
 - Lower Des Plaines River Tributaries: Nov. 9, 2017, 10 a.m., Northlake
- **Others...**

No other announcements were noted by attendees.

10. **Adjournment**

The meeting ended at about 3:00 p.m.

Attendees

<u>NAME</u>		<u>ORGANZIATION</u>
Jedd	Anderson	Christopher B. Burke Engineering Ltd.
Craig	Billington	Forest Preserves of Cook County
Tony	Budzikowski	Village of Oak Brook
Carl	Celestino	Village of Westchester
Simon	Christensen	DuPage County Stormwater Management
Dan	Deeter	Village of Hinsdale
Deanna	Doohaluk	The Conservation Foundation / DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Emily	Egan	Village of Brookfield
Mary Beth	Falsey	DuPage County Stormwater Management
Rick	Federighi	Village of Addison
Holly	Hudson	Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Patrick	Lach	Hey & Associates
Robert	Lewis	Village of Westchester
Amy	McKenna	Robinson Engineering (representing Itasca, Wood Dale, Roselle)
Karen Ann	Miller	Brookfield Plan Commission & Resident
Mary	Mitros	DuPage County Stormwater Management
Erin	Pande	ERA Consultants
Kelsey	Pudlock	Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Lynn	Rotunno	Salt Creek Watershed Network
Stan	Zarnowiecki	Salt Creek Watershed Network